

BILL NO. 94-70

COUNTY COUNCIL  
OF  
HARFORD COUNTY, MARYLAND

BILL NO. 94-70

Introduced by Council President Wilson

Legislative Day No. 94-22 Date August 9, 1994

AN ACT to repeal and reenact, with amendments, Section 235-12, Rates, of Chapter 235, Television, of the Harford County Code, as amended; to provide for the establishment of procedures for regulating cable rates; and generally relating to cable television.

By the Council, August 9, 1994

Introduced, read first time, ordered posted and public hearing scheduled  
on: September 15, 1994  
at: 6:00 p.m.

By Order: James D. Vannoy, Acting Secretary  
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PUBLIC HEARING

Having been posted and notice of time and place of hearing and title of Bill having been published according to the Charter, a public hearing was held on September 15, 1994, and concluded on, September 15, 1994

James D. Vannoy, Acting Secretary

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW. [Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law. Underlining indicates language added to Bill by amendment. Language lined through indicates matter stricken out of Bill by amendment.

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1 Section 1. Be It Enacted By The County Council for Harford  
2 County, Maryland, That Section 235-12, Rates, of Chapter 235,  
3 Television, of the Harford County Code, as amended, be, and it is  
4 hereby repealed and reenacted with amendments, to read as follows:

5 Chapter 235. Television.

6 Section 235-12. [Rates] RATE REGULATION.

7 [A. In the event that the company seeks to increase its basic  
8 cable television rates in any amount greater than ten percent (10%)  
9 each year, any such increase shall be subject to the approval of  
10 the granting authority; provided, however, that any fee paid to the  
11 county or imposed by any governmental entity on cable television  
12 service, as well as any copyright fees, may be passed on to  
13 subscribers without any regard to the ten-percent limitation herein  
14 provided. For any rate or fee increase greater than ten percent  
15 (10%) each year, the company shall file a written request  
16 specifying the justification thereof, and the granting authority  
17 shall rule on each request within one hundred fifty (150) days from  
18 the date of the company's filing or within thirty (30) days after  
19 the filing of additional supporting data, as requested by the  
20 granting authority, whichever date is later. No increase charged  
21 to subscribers shall be made until the conclusion of an appropriate  
22 public proceeding affording due process. This section does not  
23 apply to a rate or fee regulated or preempted by the Federal  
24 Communications Commission and a change caused solely by an increase  
25 in a vendor's charge to the company.

26 B. In order to provide service to areas which have fewer  
27 than thirty-five (35) subscribers per mile, the company may add a

1 surcharge on the installation fee for this service based on a  
2 contribution in aid of construction formula. This formula is  
3 subject to approval of the granting authority after an appropriate  
4 public proceeding affording due process. Any change in the formula  
5 is subject to the provision of Subsection A of this section.

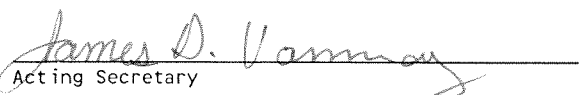
6 C. No charge shall be made for a period of five (5) years  
7 from the commencement of cable television service to the county for  
8 the use of the county channel or to the school system for use of  
9 its channel. In addition, the company will provide one (1)  
10 noncommercial public channel without charge, except as may be  
11 permitted by the Federal Communications Commission, to county  
12 residents. Additional channels, made available on a public-access  
13 basis, may be leased by the company.]

14 THE COUNTY COUNCIL SHALL ESTABLISH BY RESOLUTION PROCEDURES FOR  
15 REGULATION OF CABLE RATES THAT ARE CONSISTENT WITH THOSE  
16 PROMULGATED BY THE FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION FOR REVIEW OF  
17 BASIC CABLE RATES AND ASSOCIATED EQUIPMENT RATES.

18 Section 2. And Be It Further Enacted, That this Act shall take  
19 effect 60 calendar days from the date it becomes law.

20 EFFECTIVE: December 13, 1994

21  
22 The Secretary of the Council does hereby  
23 certify that fifteen (15) copies of this Bill are  
24 immediately available for distribution to the public  
25 and the press.  
26

27  
28   
29 Acting Secretary  
30  
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HARFORD COUNTY BILL NO. 94-70(Brief Title) Procedure for Approving Cable Television Rates

is herewith submitted to the County Council of Harford County for enrollment as being the text as finally passed.

CERTIFIED TRUE AND CORRECT

ENROLLED

James D. Vannoy  
Acting Secretary  
of the Council

[Signature]  
President of the Council

Date October 11, 1994Date October 11, 1994

BY THE COUNCIL

Read the third time.

Passed: LSD 94-27 (October 11, 1994)

Failed of Passage: \_\_\_\_\_

By Order

James D. Vannoy  
Acting Secretary

Sealed with the County Seal and presented to the County Executive for approval this 12th day of October, 1994 at 3:00 p.m.



James D. Vannoy  
Acting Secretary

BY THE EXECUTIVE

Edwin M. Lehman  
COUNTY EXECUTIVE

APPROVED: Date October 14, 1994

BY THE COUNCIL

This Bill (No. 94-70), having been approved by the Executive and returned to the Council, becomes law on October 14, 1994.

James D. Vannoy  
Acting Secretary

EFFECTIVE DATE: December 13, 1994